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Date: May 9, 2001

By:

Joy A. Roeder

*Joy A. Roeder*

Patent

Attorney's Docket No. 032005-069

*L. Parks*  
*5-30-01*  
*#5/Pr*  
*Am.H.C*

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of )

Andrew H. Cragg, et al. )

Group Art Unit: 3761

Application No.: 09/613,439 )

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: July 11, 2000 )

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR  
FACILITATING HEMOSTASIS  
OF BLOOD VESSEL PUNCTURES  
WITH ABSORBABLE SPONGE )

**RECEIVED**

MAY 21 2001

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

**SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please add the following new claims to the above-identified application as follows:

**In the Claims:**

Please add the following new Claims 25-60:

25. (New) A method for facilitating hemostasis of a puncture in the wall of a blood vessel, the method comprising:
- loading an introducer with a pledget of sponge;
  - loading the introducer over a guidewire positioned in the blood vessel by
  - inserting the guidewire through the loaded pledget; and

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01 FC:202  
02 FC:203

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